

**BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS**

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## Enforcement Action

**Dr. Hank Jong****Registered Geologist No. 4746****Certified Engineering Geologist No. 1646****Certified Hydrogeologist No. 213**

The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists issued a citation and fine of \$2,500.00 to Dr. Hank Jong, Registered Geologist No. 4746, Certified Engineering Geologist No. 1646 and Certified Hydrogeologist No. 213, for violation of §7860(b) of the Business and Professions Code (negligence and/or incompetence section of the Geologists and Geophysicist Act in the Business and Profession Code).

The citation was issued to Dr. Jong for professional negligence and incompetence during preparation of site characterization and development suitability reports in the communities of Rolling Hills and Walnut in California that were submitted to Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works. Dr. Jong failed to research available Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works records causing additional and unnecessary review work by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works staff for the two separate sites and needless expense and lost time by the property owner by necessitating reassessment of the new submittals to the County Public Works staff.<sup>1</sup>

Section 125.9(d) of the Business and Professions Code specifies that payment of the fine does not constitute admission of the violation charged and represents satisfactory resolution of the matter. Dr. Jong paid the fine and the case was closed on November 12, 2002.

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<sup>1</sup> The standard of practice of an appropriately licensed individual working under similar circumstances requires that a reasonable professional complete an adequate technical review of existing published materials (e.g., Los Angeles County, Department of Public Works records) which would have revealed the presence of site geologic conditions affecting proposed development.